

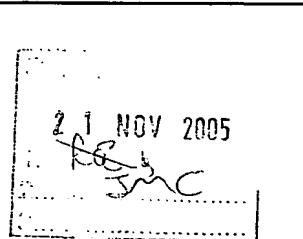
**PATENT COOPERATION TREATY**

TRANSFERRED  
DATE 3/11/05

From the:  
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINING AUTHORITY

To:

Griffith Hack  
GPO Box 1285K  
MELBOURNE VIC 3001



**PCT**

**NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF  
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY  
REPORT ON PATENTABILITY  
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)**

(PCT Rule 71.1)

Date of mailing (day/month/year)	
21 NOV 2005	

Applicant's or agent's file reference  
JMC:EP:CL:FP20749

**IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION**

International application No.  
PCT/AU2004/001695

International filing date (day/month/year)  
2 December 2004

Priority date (day/month/year)  
5 December 2003

Applicant

INTERNATIONAL GROCERY MANUFACTURER PTY LTD et al

1. The applicant is hereby notified that this International Preliminary Examining Authority transmits herewith the international preliminary report on patentability and its annexes, if any, established on the international application.
2. A copy of the report and its annexes, if any, is being transmitted to the International Bureau for communication to all the elected Offices.
3. Where required by any of the elected Offices, the International Bureau will prepare an English translation of the report (but not of any annexes) and will transmit such translations to those Offices.

**4. REMINDER**

The applicant must enter the national phase before each elected Office by performing certain acts (filing translations and paying national fees) within 30 months from the priority date (or later in some Offices)(Article 39(1))(see also the reminder sent by the International Bureau with Form PCT/IB/301).

Where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary report on patentability. It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned.

For further details on the applicable time limits and requirements of the elected Offices, see Volume II of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*.

The applicant's attention is drawn to Article 33(5), which provides that the criteria of novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability described in Article 33(2) to (4) merely serve the purposes of international preliminary examination and that "any Contracting State may apply additional or different criteria for the purposes of deciding whether, in that State, the claimed invention is patentable or not" (see also Article 27(5)). Such additional criteria may relate, for example, to exemptions from patentability, requirements for enabling disclosure, clarity and support for the claims.

Name and mailing address of the IPEA/AU

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**PATENT COOPERATION TREATY**  
**PCT**  
**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY**  
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)  
(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference  JMC:EP:CL:FP20749	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b>	See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No.  PCT/AU2004/001695	International filing date (day/month/year)  2 December 2004	Priority date (day/month/year)  5 December 2003
<p>International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC</p> <p>Int. Cl. 7 B65D 73/00, 75/38, 85/18, B65B 11/48, 25/20, A41D 19/00</p>		
<p>Applicant</p> <p>INTERNATIONAL GROCERY MANUFACTURER PTY LTD et al</p>		

<p>1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of 3 sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p>3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:</p> <p>a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (<i>sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau</i>) a total of 4 sheets, as follows:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> (<i>sent to the International Bureau only</i>) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) , containing a sequence listing and/or table related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).</p>																									
<p>4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 15%;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="width: 15%;">Box No. I</td> <td style="width: 70%;">Basis of the report</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. II</td> <td>Priority</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. III</td> <td>Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. IV</td> <td>Lack of unity of invention</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. V</td> <td>Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. VI</td> <td>Certain documents cited</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. VII</td> <td>Certain defects in the international application</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. VIII</td> <td>Certain observations on the international application</td> </tr> </table>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. I	Basis of the report	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. II	Priority	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VI	Certain documents cited	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application
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<p>Date of submission of the demand  31 May 2005</p>	<p>Date of completion of the report  15 November 2005</p>
<p>Name and mailing address of the IPEA/AU  AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA E-mail address: pct@ipaaustralia.gov.au Facsimile No. (02) 6285 3929</p>	<p>Authorized Officer   <b>ADRIANO GIACOBETTI</b> Telephone No. (02) 6283 2579</p>

## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/AU2004/001695

## Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:

- international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1 (b))
- publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)
- international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)

2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on (replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report):

the international application as originally filed/furnished

the description:

pages 1-21 as originally filed/furnished  
 pages\* received by this Authority on with the letter of  
 pages\* received by this Authority on with the letter of

the claims:

pages as originally filed/furnished  
 pages\* as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19  
 pages\* 22-25 received by this Authority on 31 May 2005 with the letter of 30 May 2005  
 pages\* received by this Authority on with the letter of

the drawings:

pages 1/12-12/12 as originally filed/furnished  
 pages\* received by this Authority on with the letter of  
 pages\* received by this Authority on with the letter of

a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3.  The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- the description, pages
- the claims, Nos.
- the drawings, sheets/figs
- the sequence listing (specify):
- any table(s) related to the sequence listing (specify):

4.  This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

- the description, pages
- the claims, Nos.
- the drawings, sheets/figs
- the sequence listing (specify):
- any table(s) related to the sequence listing (specify):

\* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

**Box No. V      Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

## 1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims 1-20	YES
	Claims	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims 1-20	YES
	Claims	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims 1-20	YES
	Claims	NO

## 2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

Cited Prior Art Documents

D1: GB 1594466 A (ARBROOK, INC.) 30 JULY 1981  
 D2: US 3384225 A (NYE) 21 May 1968  
 D3: CA 640991 A (THE SEAMLESS RUBBER COMPANY) 8 May 1962  
 D4: US Des. 297617 A (SILVERMAN) 13 September 1988  
 D5: US 5620098 A (BOOS et al.) 15 April 1997

NOVELTY(N) AND INVENTIVE STEP(IS): Claims 1-20 (YES)

None of the above documents, taken individually or in obvious combination, disclose all the features of invention as now defined in independent claims 1 and 19. In particular none of the documents disclose a package comprising a shrinkable cover member which can be used to substantially envelope the arrangement of a compression member, an item and a supporting member, and wherein the cover member thereafter being shrunk in size to compress the item within the compression member and support member thereby reducing the size of the package and item. Therefore the invention of claims 1 and 19, as well as appended claims 2 to 18 and 20; is considered to be novel and involve an inventive step. The invention also has a industrial applicability.

IAP2 Rec'd PCT/PTO 05 JUN 2006

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## CLAIMS:

1. A package for at least one item, comprising:
  - 5 a support member upon which the item can be located;
  - 10 at least one compression member moveably connected or attached to the support member, said compression member being located over the item and being moveable so as to be capable of compressing the item when located substantially on the support or support member; and
  - 15 a shrinkable cover member substantially enveloping the arrangement of the compression member, item and supporting member,  
wherein the cover member is shrunk in size thereby moving the compression member towards the support member so as to compress the item inside the package thereby forming a package in which the size of the item and/or package containing the item is reduced.
- 20 2. A package for at least one item according to any one of the preceding claims, in which the cover member is a flexible cover made from a shrinkable film, sheet, membrane or other flexible planar element which can shrink from a first size to a second size.
- 25 3. A package for at least one item according to any one of the preceding claims, in which the cover member is a shrink wrap film, sheet or covering.
- 30 4. A package for at least one item according to claim 3, in which the shrink wrap film, sheet or covering is shrunk through the application of heat.
- 35 5. A package for at least one item according to any one of the preceding claims, in which the support member is a blank having a planar central portion or panel for supporting the item.

6. A package for at least one item according to any one of the preceding claims, in which each compression member is attached to part of a lateral side of the support member.

7. A package for at least one item according to any one of the preceding claims, in which each compression member is hingedly connected to the support member.

10 8. A package for at least one item according to any one of the preceding claims, in which the support member and compression members are provide with complementary fastening elements which are releasably securable with one 15 another.

15 9. A package for at least one item according to claim 8, in which the complementary fastening elements comprise a tab which can be releasably secured within a 20 slot.

10. A package for at least one item according to any one of the preceding claims, in which the cover completely envelops the arrangement of the item, supporting member and 25 compression member forming a sealed package.

11. A package for at least one item according to any one of the preceding claims, in which the cover member is substantially transparent.

30 12. A package for at least one item according to any one of the preceding claims, in which the item is provided with cavities, pockets, folds or similar in which air can accumulate or be trapped to resist compression of the item 35 during packaging.

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13. A package for at least one item according to any one of the preceding claims, in which the item are made from flexible material.

5 14. A package for at least one item according to any one of the preceding claims, in which the item are gloves.

10 15. A package for at least one item according to any one of the preceding claims, in which the front or rear sides or faces or both faces or sides of the support member are provided with printing.

15 16. A package for at least one item according to any one of the preceding claims, in which the support member also has an attachment means for attaching the package to a hook or display means.

20 17. A package for at least one item according to any one of the preceding claims, in which the support or support member is provided with a display portion over which the compression member is not folded or superposed allowing the item within the package to be visible at the point of sale when the cover member is in place.

25 18. A package for at least one item according to any one of the preceding claims, in which the support member of the present invention is made from cardboard or similar paper or cardboard products.

30 19. A method of packaging at least one item, comprising the steps of:  
35 placing at least one of the items between a supporting or support member and at least one compression member, the compression member being moveably connected or attached to the support member;  
substantially enveloping the arrangement of the item, supporting member and compression member with a

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shrinkable cover member; and  
causing the cover member to shrink in size so as  
to move the compression member towards the support member  
so as to compress the item inside the package,  
5 thereby forming a package in which the cover  
member compresses the item between the compression member  
and the support member thereby reducing the size of the  
item and/or package containing the item.

10 20. A method of packaging at least one item according  
to claim 19, using a package for at least one item  
according to any one of claims 1 to 18..